

Annotated Agenda

ADM Steering Committee on the Poverty Reduction Strategy

Thursday, February 8, 2018, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Boardroom 3-7 (3rd floor), 140 Promenade du Portage, Phase IV Gatineau, QC

1. **Opening Remarks** – Heather Sheehy, Associate ADM, Strategic and Service Policy Branch, ESDC and Janet Badets, Assistant Chief Statistician, Social, Health and Labour Statistics Field, Statistics Canada (Co-Chairs) (Agenda at **Annex A**)
2. **Discussion of the Terms of Reference for the Poverty Reduction Strategy ADM Steering Committee** – Heather Sheehy, Associate ADM, Strategic and Service Policy Branch, ESDC

Overview

- The Terms of Reference for the Poverty Reduction Strategy is at **Annex B**.
 - The Committee's mandate is to ensure the ongoing availability of data to support the measurement and monitoring needs of the Poverty Reduction Strategy.
 - Meetings will focus on providing strategic direction on the management of data issues.
 - This is a first meeting of the group; meetings will be held quarterly, in advance of the quarterly DM-Chief Statistician meetings.

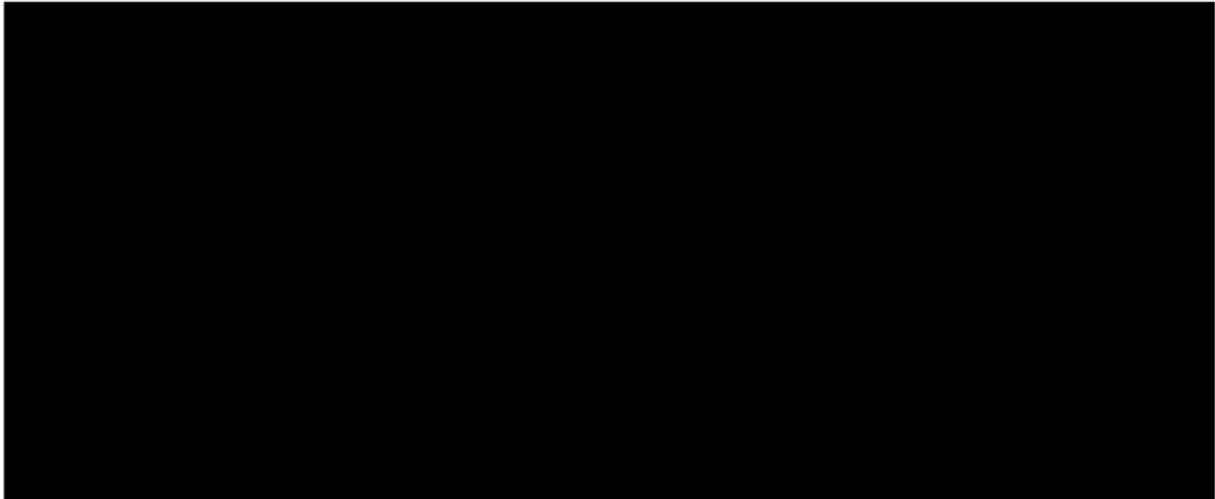
Considerations

- Deputy Minister Gillis has accepted membership on the DM-Deputy Chief Committee that this ADM Committee will support.
 - The Minister of Infrastructure and Community's mandate includes looking at the connections between infrastructure social inclusion, which has a clear connection to poverty reduction.
 - Infrastructure Canada's involvement in these committees will allow for strategic connections to be made to INFC's Data and Research Strategy and the Investing in Canada plan.
 - Tushara Williams is a member of the associated DG committee.
 - No changes are proposed to the Terms of Reference.
3. **Update on the Poverty Reduction Strategy** – Karen Hall

What We Heard Report

- To develop the Poverty Reduction Strategy, a "What We Heard" report was developed to take stock of the lived experience of poverty by Canadians. The report speaks to the results of an extensive series of consultations held across the country which included several roundtables with the leadership of National Indigenous Organizations as well as community level events.

- The results of the Tackling Poverty Together Project, an in-depth research project focussed on the experience of poverty in six Canadians communities, is also included in the report with recommendations on how the government could lift more people out of poverty.
- ESDC is working to have the report approved and released before Budget 2018. The report has not been tabled for this meeting but a draft was shared with the department last fall.



Release of the Strategy

- ESDC aims to publicly release the Poverty Reduction Strategy in the weeks following Budget 2018. The Strategy would be inclusive, making references to all activities across the federal government that have contributed, or will be contributing, to a reduction in poverty.
- ESDC has identified Infrastructure Canada funding streams as part of Government of Canada efforts to support the socio-economic wellbeing of Canadians and reduce poverty: funding for public transit, clean water and wastewater, rural and northern infrastructure, and the Arctic Energy Fund.

4. **Discuss Indicators for the Poverty Reduction Strategy** – Heather Sheehy, Associate ADM, Strategic and Service Policy Branch, ESDC

Overview

- ESDC will discuss the development of data indicators to support the measurement of poverty reduction efforts through three pillars of the Strategy:
 1. Lifting Canadians out of Poverty by **Ensuring that Basic Needs are Met**;
 2. Helping Canadians reach the Middle Class by **Promoting Social Inclusion** and Economic Opportunity for All; and,
 3. Helping Canadians Stay in the Middle Class by **Supporting Resilience** against Life's Setbacks.
- ESDC will be developing a performance dashboard to align with the three pillars. They are interested in working with other government departments in selecting the best indicators and identifying sources for ongoing data collection.

SECRETConsiderations

- INFC is currently working to develop a Data and Research Strategy (\$68M); which includes a Data Strategy (\$25M), a Research Agenda (\$18M), and the Infrastructure Data and Knowledge Program (\$25M) to further federal policy objectives.
 - **Data Strategy:** INFC is currently developing a strategic vision for the first phase of investments in creating and maintain a solid evidence base for future infrastructure decisions. INFC will be investing in two Statistics Canada surveys: the Canada Core Public Infrastructure Survey, and Canada's Capital and Repair Expenditure Survey which will gather baseline data on the state of Canada's infrastructure assets and public expenditures.
 - **Research Agenda:** INFC is also investing in research that responds to federal policy and program needs while also informing partner and stakeholder views and decisions. Funds under the Research Agenda will be used to disseminate findings broadly so that multiple levels of government and stakeholders can benefit.

5. **Other issues – All**

- No INFC issues to raise at this time.

6. **Closing Remarks** – Heather Sheehy, Associate ADM, Strategic and Service Policy Branch, ESDC and Janet Badets, Assistant Chief Statistician, Social, Health and Labour Statistics Field, Statistics Canada (Co-Chairs)

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140 Promenade du Portage, Gatineau QC, Phase IV, 3rd Floor, Boardroom 3-7.

Time	Subject	Leads
(5 min)	Opening remarks	Heather Sheehy / Jane Badets
(10 min)	Discussion of the Terms of Reference for the Poverty Reduction Strategy ADM Steering Committee	Heather Sheehy and All
(15 min)	Update on the Poverty Reduction Strategy - What We Heard Report [REDACTED]	Karen Hall
(15 min)	Discuss Indicators for the Poverty Reduction Strategy	Heather Sheehy
(5 min)	Other issues	All
(5 min)	Closing Remarks	Heather Sheehy / Jane Badets

DRAFT Terms of Reference
Poverty Reduction Strategy ADM-Data Committee

1) MANDATE:

To ensure the ongoing availability of data to support the measurement and monitoring needs of the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS). This committee will focus on strategic discussions on the direction and management of data for the PRS as well as to resolve data gaps and address program needs.

The committee will identify common directions and make decisions on prioritization, resource allocation, roles and responsibilities, communication, and engagement, as well as undertake medium- and longer-term planning.

2) FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:

Quarterly – Prior to the quarterly Deputy Minister-Chief Statistician meeting. Additional meetings may be called if needed, with the flexibility to adjust the frequency on a needs basis.

3) ADMINISTRATION:

Location

Meetings are alternately hosted at ESDC and Statistics Canada.

Membership

The Committee is co-chaired by the Associate Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic and Service Policy Branch at ESDC and the Assistant Chief Statistician of the Social, Health and Labour Statistics Field at Statistics Canada.

Director Generals of Strategic and Service Policy Branch at ESDC and the Director General of Education, Labour and Income Statistics Branch at Statistics Canada would also be members. Additional individuals may be invited, as required, for specific agenda items.

Secretariat Support

Social Policy Directorate at ESDC and the Social, Health and Labour Statistics Field at Statistics Canada will jointly provide the secretariat for these meetings, organizing and preparing supporting documentation.

A proposed agenda will be circulated in advance to the co-chairs for approval. Once approved, agenda and supporting documents will be distributed to all attendees.

Notes of the meeting and follow-up actions are tracked by the meeting's host and distributed to attendees within one week of the meeting.

These terms of reference will be reviewed annually.